IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 10-13 as indicated in the following listing of claims. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system comprising the steps of:

specifying, by a processing entity at runtime, an interface that is not referenced by the processing entity, the interface having a method;

generating, at runtime, a class that implements the interface;

~~generating at runtime a class that implements an interface specified at runtime having a method;~~

creating, by the processing entity an instance of the class;

receiving by the class instance a request from a second processing entity to process the method of the interface, wherein the second processing entity has a reference to the interface;

dispatching the request to an object to facilitate processing of the method of the interface; and

returning a result of the processed method by the object.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating a class further includes the step of:

generating at runtime a class that implements <u>a set of interfaces</u> ~~more than one~~ ~~interface~~ specified at runtime, each interface having one or more methods<u>, wherein at</u> <u>least one of the interfaces in the set of interfaces is not referenced by the processing</u> <u>entity and is referenced by the second processing entity</u>.

Claim 3.   (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating an instance further includes the step of:

specifying an object to process method invocations on the instance.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system having an invocation handler, comprising the steps of:

~~receiving at runtime an indication of at least one interface having a plurality of~~ ~~methods~~

<u>specifying, by a processing entity at runtime, at least one interface that is not</u> <u>referenced by the processing entity, the interface having a plurality of methods</u>;

generating at runtime a class that implements the <u>at least one</u> interface by generating code for each of the methods that dispatches an invocation of the <u>methods</u> ~~method~~ to the invocation handler.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a data processing system to perform a method comprising the steps of:

specifying, by a processing entity at runtime, an interface that is not referenced by the processing entity, the interface having a method;

generating, at runtime, a class (202) that implements the interface;

~~generating at runtime a class that implements an interface specified at runtime having a method;~~

creating, by the processing entity, an instance of the class;

receiving by the class instance a request from a second processing entity to process the method of the interface, wherein the second processing entity has a reference to the interface

dispatching the request to an object to facilitate processing of the method of the interface; and

returning a result of the processed method by the object.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 6, wherein the step of generating a class further includes the step of:

generating at runtime a class that implements a set of interfaces ~~more than one interface~~ specified at runtime, each interface having one or more methods, wherein at least one of the interfaces in the set of interfaces is not referenced by the processing entity and is referenced by the second processing entity.

Claim 8.   (Cancelled).

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 6,

wherein the step of creating an instance further includes the step of:

specifying an object to process method invocations on the instance.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing

instructions for controlling a data processing system having an invocation handler to

perform a method comprising the steps of:

~~receiving at runtime an indication of at least one interface having a plurality of~~

~~methods~~

specifying, by a processing entity at runtime, at least one interface that is not

referenced by the processing entity, the interface having a plurality of methods;

generating at runtime a class that implements the at least one interface by

generating code for each of the methods that dispatches an invocation of the methods

~~method~~ to the invocation handler.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A method in a data-processing system having a

proxy class implementing a ~~list of~~ interfaces specified at runtime, the interfaces

containing methods, the system further having an instance of the proxy class and an

invocation handler object for executing the methods contained by the interfaces, the

method comprising the steps of:

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determining, by a processing entity, a first set of interfaces to be implemented by the proxy class, wherein the first set of interfaces are not referenced by the processing entity;

generating at runtime the proxy class implementing the ~~determined~~ first set of interfaces;

receiving a request by ~~the~~ an instance of the proxy class ~~instance~~ to invoke a method of an interface included in the first set of interfaces implemented by the proxy class;

dispatching the request to the invocation handler object;

returning a value from the invocation handler object to the proxy class instance; and

returning the value from the proxy class instance.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A data-processing system comprising:

means for specifying, by a processing entity at runtime, an interface that is not referenced by the processing entity, the interface having a method;

means for generating, at runtime, a class that implements the interface;

~~means for generating at runtime a class that implements an interface specified at runtime having a method;~~

means for creating, by the processing entity, an instance of the class;

means for receiving by the class instance a request from a second processing entity to process the method of the interface, wherein the second processing entity has a reference to the interface;

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means for dispatching the request to an object to facilitate processing of the

method of the interface; and

means for returning a result of the processed method by the object.

Claim 13.   (Currently Amended) A data-processing system comprising:

a memory containing a proxy class, an instance of the proxy class, an interface

specified at runtime, by a processing entity, the interface having methods and is not

referenced by the processing entity, and an object for handling method invocations, the

proxy class implementing the interface; and

a processor for generating the proxy class at runtime, receiving a request to

access a method of the interface from a second processing entity and dispatching the

request to the object to facilitate processing of the requested method of the interface,

wherein the second processing entity has a reference to the interface.